

House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### HONORING OUR VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. How often do many Americans read the historic documents like the Declaration of Independence or our Constitution? The Declaration of Independence indicates that we hold these truths to be self-evident, that we all are created equal, with certain inalienable rights of life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

In the opening words of the Constitution, it says that we have gathered to form a more perfect union. What better exhibit of a perfect union, of the opportunity for happiness, than the veterans and members of the United States military who serve us now on the front lines?

So I rise today to pay special tribute to them. I look forward to returning to my district in Houston and joining the commemoration on this coming Sunday, and as well, marching with veterans, riding in military vehicles, getting the sense of their life and their dedication. I look forward to paying tribute to them in Houston's Freedom Fest and celebrating with some of the teary-eyed veterans, family members who have come to celebrate and to simply say thank you.

My presence here today on this floor is an example of the free country in which we live. The discourse of democracy is protected by those who fight today and those who have fought in wars gone by. And so it is appropriate that I rise today and embrace all of our veterans from sea to shining sea, to be able to say to you, thank you, and thank you to your families for the sacrifice of being away from them, mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, children that you have missed because you have served our country.

I rise in support of the homeless veterans. And today in Houston we have what we call a "stand-down," where veterans come and celebrate those who walk the streets and are homeless.

I look forward to the passage of the most timely and largest Veterans bill in the history of this Nation. Democrats were the leaders on this, and we will get it passed, and we will provide a thank you for our veterans.

I rise also to acknowledge that there are those still fighting on the front lines, and in particular, in Iraq. I claim today, as I have done from the very day that this war was pronounced, I want our soldiers to come home. I want our heroes to come home. And I have a memory of the great excitement, through pictures, of course, of the celebration of the World War II veterans. Who could ever forget that famous kiss in Times Square in New York? But since that time, I have not been satis-

fied by the way we have honored our veterans, our soldiers who have come home. And so I have filed H.R. 4020, the Military Success Act of 2007, that calls on the Nation to welcome home our Iraqi soldiers with a proclamation and celebration, with funding going to local and State jurisdictions so that we can have a day of celebration. I want to see those kisses in the town square. I want to see those colorful ribbons. I want to make sure that we understand that when a soldier comes home, it should not be in the dark of night on a lonely airplane or a lonely bus going into a lonely town.

So I ask my colleagues and Americans, veterans organizations, to support H.R. 4020 to celebrate the soldiers and to provide a celebration for each returning battle group that comes home from any war that they fight on behalf of America and they have lost lives and they have dedicated themselves to this Nation.

And because of that, Mr. Speaker, I also stand today to beg President Musharraf in Pakistan to release former Prime Minister Bhutto from house arrest. I acknowledge the Pakistani Army for the work that they have done on the border, some having lost their life, along with our soldiers in Afghanistan, but I ask the President of Pakistan, an ally of the United States, to understand that if you have democracy, it is a painful experience. And even when there are those against you, you must stand for democratic principles in your own way. Pakistan is a Muslim country that promotes democracy.

And so I ask President Musharraf to release the former Prime Minister Bhutto from house arrest, to release the lawyers from detention, and the political prisoners, to restore the constitution, to restore the democratic rule, and to release the emergency rule.

No, I don't expect for us to invade Pakistan, I don't expect for us to invade Iran, but I do expect for this State Department and this President to take this seriously.

In this legislation, H. Res. 810, I have asked for a diplomatic team of those from the Defense Department, those from the State Department to form a team, fly to Pakistan, sit down with our ally, and demand, yes demand, because of the \$11 billion we've given them, the right for democracy to return to Pakistan.

I believe that this is the way to run our foreign policy. Bring our soldiers home, and celebrate them in honor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WATERS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HOLT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### REVISIONS TO THE 302(a) ALLOCATIONS AND BUDGETARY AGGREGATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2008 THROUGH 2012

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, under section 303(b) of S. Con. Res. 21, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 2008, I hereby submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a revision to the budget allocations and aggregates for the House Committee on Ways and Means for fiscal year 2008, and the period of 2008 through 2012. This revision represents an adjustment to certain House committee budget allocation and